

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/796,448

Examiner

Rakesh Kumar

Applicant(s)

GRAEF ET AL.

Art Unit

3654

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 01/10/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-39.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 60/453,146.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The claim 2 are allowable over the prior art of record because the teachings of the references taken as a whole do not show or render obvious the combination set forth, including: wherein the picking member includes a first disk portion, wherein the first disk portion includes a high friction arcuate segment, wherein the high friction arcuate segment is adapted to act on an end note bounding the stack, wherein the first disk portion includes an arcuate projecting portion, wherein the arcuate projecting portion includes a projecting surface adjacent to and transversely disposed from the high friction arcuate segment, wherein the projecting surface is adapted to act on a leading edge area of the end note to prevent deformation of the leading edge area as the end note is acted upon by the high friction arcuate segment.

The claim 3 are allowable over the prior art of record because the teachings of the references taken as a whole do not show or render obvious the combination set forth, including: wherein the picking member includes a first disk portion, wherein the first disk portion includes a high friction arcuate segment, wherein the high friction arcuate segment is adapted to act on an end note bounding the stack, wherein the picking member includes an arcuate projecting surface adjacent to and transversely disposed from the high friction arcuate segment, wherein the arcuate projecting surface extends

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radially outward relative to the first disk portion beyond the high friction arcuate segment, wherein the arcuate projecting surface is adapted to act on a leading edge area of the end note to prevent deformation of the leading edge area as the end note is acted upon by the high friction arcuate segment.

The claim 35 are allowable over the prior art of record because the teachings of the references taken as a whole do not show or render obvious the combination set forth, including: wherein the picking disk includes an axially extending and circumferentially extending outer surface section, wherein the outer surface section includes a high friction portion adjacent to a low friction portion in a direction parallel to the axis, wherein the high friction portion comprises a high friction arcuate surface, wherein the high friction arcuate surface is adapted to act on the end note, wherein the low friction portion comprises a low friction arcuate surface, wherein the low friction arcuate surface extends radially outward relative to the axis further than the high friction arcuate surface.

The claim 36 are allowable over the prior art of record because the teachings of the references taken as a whole do not show or render obvious the combination set forth, including: wherein the picking member includes an arcuate high friction surface, wherein the high friction surface extends a distance on the picking member along a picking direction from a forward edge bounding the high friction surface, wherein the picking member includes at least one arcuate projecting surface,

wherein the at least one arcuate projecting surface is adjacent to and transversely disposed from the high friction surface, wherein the at least one arcuate projecting surface extends adjacent the forward edge and extends along the picking direction only a portion of the distance that the high friction surface extends on the picking member, wherein the at least one arcuate projecting surface is operative to prevent deformation in the leading edge area as the leading edge area moves.

The claim 38 are allowable over the prior art of record because the teachings of the references taken as a whole do not show or render obvious the combination set forth, including: a rotatable picking member adapted to work in conjunction with a stripping member to pick notes generally one at a time from a stack of notes in an automated banking machine, wherein the picking member includes a first disk portion, wherein the first disk portion includes a high friction arcuate segment, wherein the high friction arcuate segment is adapted to act on an end note bounding the stack, wherein the picking member includes an arcuate projecting surface adjacent to and transversely disposed from the high friction arcuate segment, wherein the projecting surface extends radially outward relative to the first disk portion beyond the high friction arcuate segment, wherein the projecting surface is adapted to act on a leading edge area of the end note as the end note is acted upon by the high friction arcuate segment.

The claim 39 are allowable over the prior art of record because the teachings of the references taken as a whole do not show or render obvious the combination set forth,

including: wherein the picking disk is adapted to work in conjunction with a stripping member to pick currency notes generally one at a time from a stack of currency notes in an automated banking machine, wherein the picking disk is operative to cause a leading edge area on an end note bounding the stack to move, wherein the picking disk includes an axially extending and circumferentially extending outer surface section, wherein the outer surface section includes a high friction portion adjacent to a low friction portion in a direction parallel to the axis, wherein the high friction portion comprises a high friction arcuate surface, wherein the high friction arcuate surface is adapted to act on the end note, wherein the low friction portion comprises a low friction arcuate surface, wherein the low friction arcuate surface extends circumferentially along only a portion of the high friction arcuate surface .

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments, see Appeal Brief, filed 01/10/2007, with respect to claims 2-39 have been fully considered and are deemed persuasive.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rakesh Kumar whose telephone number is (517) 272-8314. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00AM - 4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gene Crawford can be reached on (571) 272-6911. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

RK
July 20, 2007


GENE O. CRAWFORD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER